



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

News Release

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STATE IMPLEMENTS ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAM FOR UNEMPLOYED WORKERS

HONOLULU – The state Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR) will begin an on-the-job training program to assist dislocated unemployed individuals return to the workplace. The program will help unemployed workers gain new skills, technology capabilities and job experiences to meet the requirements of a new occupation or industry.

The program will be funded with a \$601,873 On-the-Job National Emergency Grant which was awarded to Hawai'i on a competitive basis earlier this year through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

"DLIR is looking at every opportunity to bring in federal funds to provide additional help to those seeking employment to get the training they need and find good jobs," said DLIR Director Pearl Imada Iboshi.

The federal funds will be used to help employers hire and train new workers who were laid off after January 1, 2008, and have been unemployed for 20 weeks or longer. Based on assessment of work history and skills, approximately 60 participants will be placed with employers who are willing to hire and provide on-the-job training for up to six months.

Participants may be provided supportive services such as transportation, uniforms, and medical exams in order for them to begin working.

Employers participating in the on-the-job training program will be reimbursed for extraordinary training costs, estimated at half of the participant's wages.

It is anticipated that all participants will have the opportunity to remain with the employer or find similar jobs with their newly acquired skills.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Workforce Development Division, will administer the program. Training and services will be available at the One-Stop Career Centers on each island.

Employers and potential employees who are interested in participating in the on-the-job training program should contact the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations for more information at: phone: 586-8877 or email: DLIR.Workforce.Develop@hawaii.gov.

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For more information, go to www.hawaii.gov/labor or contact:

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